

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 10089 181010Z

17

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 CPR-01 A-01 MED-01 INR-05

CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 /037 W

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P 180842Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9790

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 10089

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (GENERAL ABDUL HARIS NASUTION)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MEDICAL TREATMENT OF GEN. NASUTION

1. LT. GENERAL (DR.) ROEBIONO KERTOPATI, PERSONAL PHYSICIAN TO PRESIDENT, HAS APPROACHED THE EMBASSY ON AN EXPLORATORY BASIS TO DETERMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF MEDICAL TREATMENT IN THE UNITED STATES FOR FORMER ARMED FORCES CHIEF GENERAL ABDUL HARIS NASUTION. ACCORDING TO ROEBIONO, NASUTION IS SUFFERING FROM AN ENLARGED PROSTATE, IS IN CONSIDERABLE PAIN, CAN ONLY WALK WITH A CATHETER, AND REQUIRES SURGERY.

2. A FORMER FOUR-STAR GENERAL, NASUTION IS NOW RETIRED AND LOST HIS LAST OFFICIAL POSITION IN 1971 WHEN HE WAS EASED OUT OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PROVISIONAL PEOPLES CONSULTATIVE CONGRESS (MPRS). HE HAS BEEN A CRITIC OF THE SUHARTO GOVERNMENT BUT HAS NOT ATTEMPTED TO ORGANIZE OPPOSITION TO IT. HE IS STILL ADMIRER, PARTICULARLY IN YOUTH AND ISLAMIC CIRCLES FOR HIS PATRIOTISM AND HONESTY, BUT IS REGARDED BY MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE OBSERVERS AS A FIGURE OF THE PAST.

3. DR. ROEBIONO STRESSED THAT HE DID NOT HAVE OFFICIAL SANCTION TO APPROACH THE EMBASSY, THAT HIS APPROACH WAS EXPLORATORY AND HE MERELY WISHED TO DETERMINE IF IT WAS
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POSSIBLE FOR THIS RETIRED OFFICER TO BE TREATED AT A

U.S. MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITY. DR. ROEBIONO INDICATED THAT HIS FIRST CHOICE WOULD BE WALTER REED HOSPITAL, BUT IF THAT WERE NOT POSSIBLE HE HOPED TREATMENT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE AT TRIPLER IN HONOLULU OR AT CLARK AIR FORCE BASE IN THE PHILIPPINES. ROEBIONO ADDED THAT IF THE RESPONSE TO HIS INQUIRY IS AFFIRMATIVE HE WILL THEN UNDERTAKE TO CLEAR THE MATTER PERSONALLY WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO BEFORE ANY FORMAL REQUEST IS MADE OF THE EMBASSY.

4. ON ASSUMPTION THAT FULL COST WOULD BE PAID BY GOI, AND THAT SUHARTO APPROVES, EMBASSY INCLINED RECOMMEND TREATMENT. WE BELIEVE WOULD HAVE FAVORABLE IMPACT ON IMPORTANT MUSLIM.

5. EMBOFF REPLIED TO DR. ROEBIONO ONLY THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE INVESTIGATED ON AN INFORMAL BASIS.
NEWSOM

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